Utica Aug 29 1849

Mrs M W Chapman

My dear Madam

I owe an apology for not having before answered your kind letter but the near approach of our fair at Syracuse was the prominent reason for my delay. I wished to know the results of that Fair before laying any plans for the next.

It did not succeed as well as we had hoped. We had a large collection of very good articles not as elegant as I have sometimes seen but all in very good taste. We cleared one hundred and sixty dollars and had a large portion of our articles left which Abby Kelley proposes to take to Seneca Falls and there hold an other fair, where she has just now succeeded in arrousing a very great interest.

The dividing line between friends and enemies is being closely drawn now in the city, and we find our ranks rapidly thinning. The Colorphobia being raging here now with greater violence since the visit of C L Remond & F Douglass than ever before we find many who have claimed to be our friends

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now entirely thrown off. For this reason I look forward to the fair with very great anxiety the whole responsibility rests on two or three persons and after consultation we have concluded that it would not be best for us to expend any thing for articles of which we had not some certainty of sale among our friends, as we can look for patronage from few others.

Should our prospects become more encouraging after our annual meeting in November I shall then most gratefully avail myself of your kind offer and send an some money for the purchase of some articles such as we then may think best We should want books I think in place of fancy articles Garrisons & Pierpont poems and your Liberty Bell.

Mrs Collins will tell you just how we are situated more particularly than I can write.

In looking over your letter again the Stationary mentioned strikes me as an articles which will also with books will be what we most want for our fair. Our money is now in the Bank at Syracuse & I would forward by Mrs Collins the amount necessary for theese purchases but presume I shall soon have an other opportunity

I am very gratefully & respectfully yours

Paulina Wayton Wright

49 Fayette St

Mrs M P Chapin
Boston
Favored by Mrs Collins

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1843

Ms.A.5.19.23